

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 14625 231756Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

OMB-01 SAJ-01 AF-10 EURE-00 DRC-01 /159 W

----- 066791

P R 231629Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4117

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 14625

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR XF

SUBJECT: MITCHELL SHARP'S CONVERSATIONS ON MIDDLE
EAST WITH GROMYKO AND KOSYGIN

1. SUMMARY: CANADIAN SECSTATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SHARP,
DURING CONVERSATIONS WITH GROMYKO IN MOSCOW NOVEMBER 19 AND
WITH KOSYGIN ON BLACK SEA NOVEMBER 21, SPENT MUCH TIME
ON MIDDLE EAST. GROMYKO-KOSYGIN COMMENTS ON PALESTINE
INDICATED THAT THEY ARE WAITING FOR ARAB GOVERNMENTS TO
WORK OUT POSITION ON PALESTINE WHICH SOVIETS WILL THEN
SUPPORT. END SUMMARY

2. CANADIAN POLCOUNS HAS FILLED US IN ON MIDDLE EAST
ASPECTS OF SHARP'S VISIT. GROMYKO ASSERTED TO SHARP THAT
U.S. HAD FAILED TO HEED SOVIET WARNINGS THAT WAR MIGHT
BREAK OUT IN ME, IN PARTICULAR BREZHNEV COMMENTS TO
PRESIDENT NIXON.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 14625 231756Z

3. GROMYKO SAID THAT CONFERENCE OF RELEVANT STATES SHOULD CONVENE NOT LATER THAN MID-DECEMBER.

4. SHARP ASKED ABOUT BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR DEMILITARIZED ZONES. GROMYKO RESPONDED THAT BRITISH PROPOSAL IS NOT CLEAR. IF IT MERELY MEANS A ZONE ON BOTH SIDES OF OLD BORDER--NOT A BORDER WHICH INCLUDES LAND SEIZED BY ISRAEL--THN IT IS NOT NEW, AND HAS IN FACT BEEN PROPOSED EARLIER BY SOVIET SIDE. IF HOWEVER IT MEANS THAT DEMILITARIZED ZONE WOULD BE CREATED ON OCCUPIED TERRITORY IT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE. GRMYKO'S ARGUMENTATION RESTED ON QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER DEMILITARIZED ZONE, WHICH GAVE CANADIANS IMPRESSION THAT HE DID NOT RULE OUT ZONE WHOLLY LOCATED ON OCCUPIED TERRITORY IF QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY WERE MADE CLEAR.

5. IN DISCUSSION OF HOW ISRAELI SECURITY WOULD BE GUARANTEED--BY GREATPOWERS, SECURITY COUNCIL, OR COMBINATION OF TWO--GROMYKO COMMENTED THAT SECURITY COUNCIL IS SUPREME INTERNATIONAL BODY WHOSE DECISIONS MUST BE OBYEED, AND ADDED THAT IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT AGREEMENT APPROVED BY SC COULD ARRANGE FOR SOME POINTS AGREED IN ADVANCE NOT TO BE SUBJECT TO VETO. (CANADIANS WERE MYSTIFIED BY LATTER IDEA, BUT PASSED ON GROMYKO'S COMMENT FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH.)

6. SHARP RAISED PALESTINE. GROMYKO SAID IT IS DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHAT IS BEST FOR PALESTINE SINCE EVERY ARAB YOU ASK SUGGESTS A DIFFERENT SOLUTION, BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ATTEND FUTURE CONFERENCE "IN SOME CAPACITY." RESPONDING TO FURTHER QUESTIONS, HE SAID THAT ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE RECOGNIZED ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AND WILL FIND COMMON GROUND WITH THE PALESTINIANS TO WORK OUT A SOLUTION. CLEARLY HOWEVER, THE PALESTINE QUESTION CANNOT BE LEFT OUT OF ANY SETTLEMENT.

7. KOSYGIN REPEATED MOST OF GROMYKO'S POINTS, ESPECIALLY ON PALESTIN: HE SAID ARAB GOVERNMENTS WILL PUT FORTH A SATISFACTORY POSITION ON PALESTINE BY THE TIME OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE. HE SAID THAT THIS POSITION, WHEN ESTABLISHED, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 14625 231756Z

WILL BE A PRINCIPLED ONE AND WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO COMPROMISE.

8. CANADIANS COMMENTED THAT NEITHER GROMYKO NOR KOSYGIN USED TERM "NATIONAL" IN DISCUSSING PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. DUBS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW14625
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731116/aaaaalvk.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Oct-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MITCHELL SHARP'S CONVERSATIONS ON MIDDLE EAST WITH GROMYKO AND KOSYGIN
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF, CA, (SHARP, MITCHELL), (GROMYKO, ANATOLIY ANDREYEVICH), (KOSYGIN, ALEKSEY NIKOLOYEVICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005